

Please delete Claims 1-17, without prejudice.

Please add the following statement, wherever applicable:

GAK
9-16-03 -- This application is a divisional patent application of Serial No. 09/410,728, filed October 1, 1999 ^{now Pat No. 6,355,320} for a Synthetic Closure and Manufacturing Process Thereof. --

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being submitted to place this application in order and in condition for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin I. Stoltz
Melvin I. Stoltz
Reg. No. 25,934
Attorney for Applicants

MIS:rpr
(203) 874-8183

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